

REMARKS

The Office action mailed October 13, 2006, has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendments have been made in response thereto. The objections to the specification have been overcome by changing "diverter" to "diffuser" on page 5, and correcting the article on page 5, line 3. The sentence that begins on line 1 of page 6 has been corrected and is now complete.

The Office action states that the specification fails to provide antecedent basis for the subject matter recited in Claims 6 and 15. Respectfully, the elements of the claims 6 and 15 appear to be supported by the specification and are illustrated in Figures 2, 4 and 5. The lateral walls are described in the specification at page 6, line 26, the first passage is passage 42, the nozzle is nozzle 64, and the exit of the nozzle is exit 66, and the exit opening is opening 68.

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The Office action states that in line 2 of Claim 8 there is no antecedent for "the throat". Claim 8 does not contain the element "the throat" and that claim has been cancelled. Therefore, the basis for rejecting Claim 8 under 35 USC 112 is now absent.

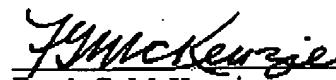
Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by Walton et al (USP 6,573,339) and anticipated by Schaefer et al (USP 4,033,706). Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Heath et al (USP 6,666,655). None of these references teach or suggest that the exit opening of the nozzle terminates in a elliptical or oval opening. Claims 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitation of Claim 8 with respect to the nozzle exit opening being elliptical or oval.

The '339 patent discloses an exit opening of the nozzle that is annular, as shown in Figure 2 and Figure 5, where passage 32 and passage 24 merge at 20 in the annular passage 43. The '655 patent discloses nothing with respect to the nature or shape of the exit opening at the end of the nozzle where the first passage and second passage merge. The '706 patent discloses a nozzle 32 having a circular opening where the second passage 32 merges with first passage 21 in a manifold 31.

The Office action indicates that Claims 7-17 stand allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, claims 1-7 and 9-17 are now in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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